

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 7,014,813 B1
APPLICATION NO. : 10/088595
DATED : March 21, 2006
INVENTOR(S) : Watling et al.

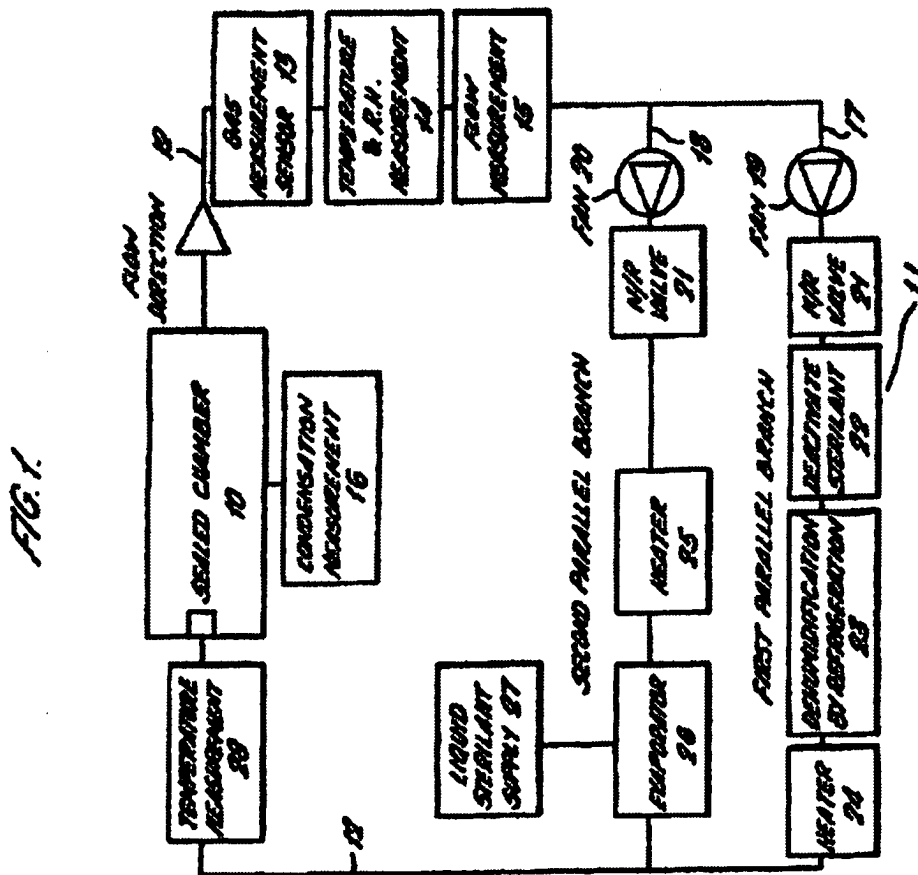
Page 1 of 5

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Delete the title page and substitute therefor the attached title page.

Drawings

Sheet 1, replace Figure 1 with the figure depicted herein below, in which the "apparatus" has been labeled with --11--



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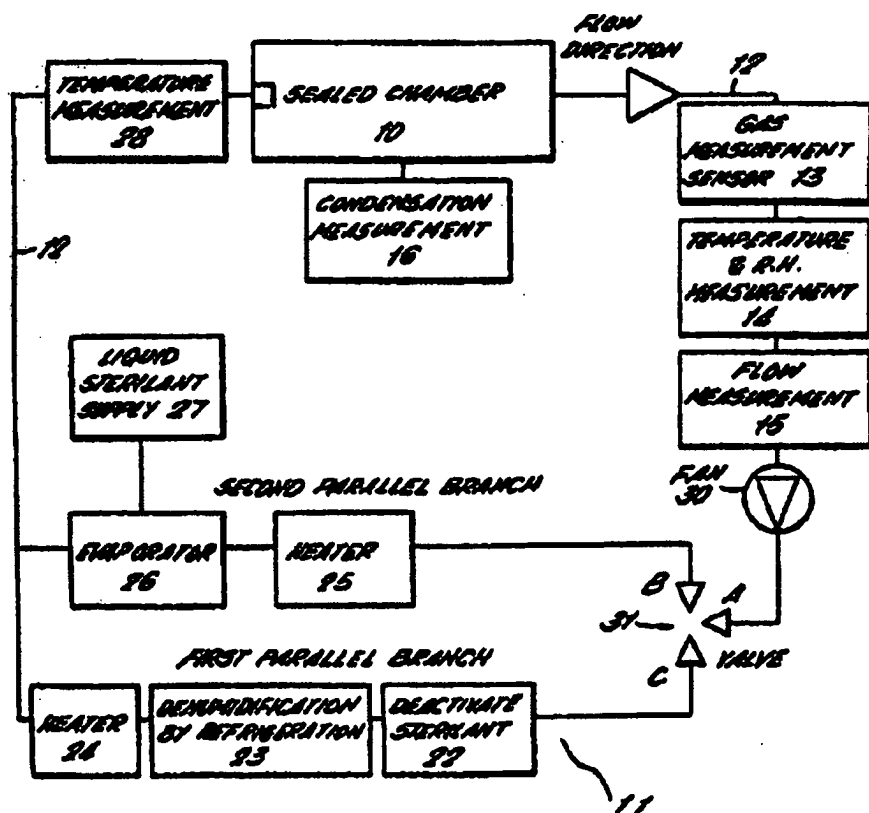
Page 2 of 5

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Drawings

Sheet 2, replace Figure 2 with the figure depicted herein below, in which the "apparatus" has been labeled with --11--

FIG. 2



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Page 3 of 5

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 1

Line 65, change "Walter C. Schumb" to --WALTER C. SCHUMB--

Column 2

Line 59, after "e.g." insert --,--

Column 3

Line 20, after "into" insert --,--

Line 23, after "port" insert --,--

Column 4

Line 45, after "or" insert --the--

Column 5

Line 53, after "13" --,--

Line 54, after "14" insert --,--

Column 6

Line 6, change "18, 19" to --19, 20--

Line 60, change "or" to --of--

Column 7

Line 28, remove [to]

Line 47, change "it" to --if--

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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

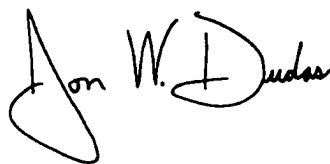
Column 9

Line 6, change "visa" to --vice--

This certificate supersedes the Certificate of Correction issued February 5, 2008.

Signed and Sealed this

Twenty-sixth Day of February, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon W. Dudas". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "J" and a cursive "Dudas".

JON W. DUDAS
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

(12) **United States Patent**
Watling et al.

(10) Patent No.: **US 7,014,813 B1**
(45) Date of Patent: **Mar. 21, 2006**

(54) **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR VAPOR
PHASE STERILISATION**

(75) Inventors: **David Watling, Westcott (GB);
Anthony Michael Martin, Andover
(GB)**

(73) Assignee: **Bloquell UK Limited, Andover
Hampshire (GB)**

(*) Notice: **Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 785 days.**

(21) Appl. No.: **10/088,595**

(22) PCT Filed: **Sep. 20, 2000**

(86) PCT No.: **PCT/GB00/03606**

§ 371 (c)(1).

(2), (4) Date: **Jun. 11, 2002**

(87) PCT Pub. No.: **WO01/21223**

PCT Pub. Date: **Mar. 29, 2001**

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Sep. 21, 1999 (GB) 9922364

(51) Int. Cl. **A61L 2/08 (2006.01)**

(52) U.S. Cl. **422/26; 422/27; 422/28;
422/34; 422/120; 422/292; 422/305**

(58) Field of Classification Search **422/26-28,
422/30, 31, 34, 120, 292, 305**
See application file for complete search history.

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(Continued)

Primary Examiner—David Redding

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Workman Nydegger

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus for sterilizing a sealable enclosure includes a circuit for flow of a sterilizing gas or gasses. The circuit is connected to the enclosure to be sterilized to form a closed circuit and pumps to circulate gas through the circuit and enclosure. The circuit has parallel branches one of which contains apparatus to deactivate a sterilant to be added to the carrier gas flowing through the circuit and apparatus to dehumidify the gas. The other branch contains apparatus to heat the gas and apparatus to supply a sterilant vapor or vapors to the gas. Control apparatus determines which of the parallel branches the gas flows through. The control apparatus maintains flow through one branch passage until the relative humidity falls below a predetermined level. The flow through that branch is then terminated and flow through the other branch initiated.

22 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

